

# Office of Interpreter Services King County Superior Court

**King County Courthouse**  
Room C-701  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104  
**Tel: 206-477-1415**

**Regional Justice Center**  
Room G-0243  
401 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Kent, WA 98032  
**Tel: 206-477-2547**

**Juvenile Court, DYS**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
1211 East Alder  
Seattle, WA 98122  
**Tel: 206-477-2546**

Email: [scinterp@kingcounty.gov](mailto:scinterp@kingcounty.gov)

Web Page: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superiorcourt/interpretsrv.aspx>

## STAFF

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**Certification:** In 1989, Washington State passed a law providing for the Court Interpreter Certification program. Since 1990, under RCW 2.43, appointing authorities have been required to appoint certified interpreters for non-English speaking participants; for an even longer period of time, the same requirement has been in effect under RCW 2.42 for deaf and hard of hearing persons in legal proceedings. A new category of registered languages has been in effect since 2008 (see next page for the particular languages in this category).

Court Interpreter certification now exists in 12 spoken foreign languages in Washington State, besides national certification for Sign Language interpreters:

Arabic (Egyptian)  
Arabic (Levantine)  
Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian  
Cantonese

French  
Korean  
Laotian  
Mandarin

Marshallese  
Punjabi  
Russian  
Somali

Spanish  
Tagalog  
Vietnamese

In accordance with the law, the Office of Interpreter Services will strive to provide only court certified interpreters in the languages listed above and carefully screened and qualified interpreters in all other languages.

**Training:** The staff provides orientation sessions for interpreters as well as training for those who use interpreters, including judges, attorneys, and those working in other court related programs.

**Language Bank:** This office has provided interpreters in over 150 languages for criminal and civil proceedings at the three sites listed above.

**Inquiries:** The staff fields scores of inquiries daily from interpreters, Courts, government and private agencies, and attorneys (local and statewide), for interpretation services and referrals, translation referrals, advice regarding interpreter needs and issues, coordination of interpreter programs and interpreter education. Please feel free to call us at the numbers listed above.